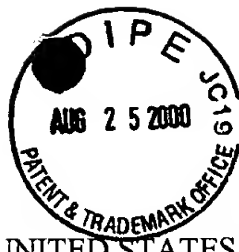


S/N 09/575,348



# 5 1/2

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	Ando et al.	Examiner:	Unknown
Serial No.:	09/575,348	Group Art Unit:	Unknown
Filed:	May 19, 2000	Docket No.:	12052.33US01
Title:	BILLET FOR COLD FORGING, METHOD OF MANUFACTURING BILLET FOR COLD FORGING, METHOD OF CONTINUOUSLY COLD- FORGING BILLET, METHOD OF COLD-FORGING CRANKSHAFT, METHOD OF COLD-FORGING DISK-SHAPED PART WITH SHAFT, AND COLD-FORGING DIE APPARATUS		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the paper, as described herein, are being deposited in the United States Postal Service, as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on August 23, 2000.

By: Curtis B. Hamre  
Curtis B. Hamre

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b))

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not

represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

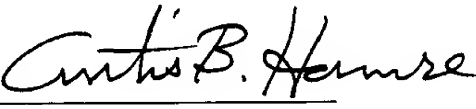
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
(612) 332-5300

Dated: August 23, 2000

By   
Curtis B. Hamre  
Reg. No. 29,165

CBH/jlc